

SAND HILL RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

April 1, 2008 Meeting Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Chairman Harold Vig called the April 1, 2008 meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office. Other managers present were Bill Brekke, Stuart Christian, Roger Hanson, and Gordon Sonsteli. Others in attendance were Daniel Wilkens-Administrator, April Swenby – Administrative Assistant, and Lawrence Woodbury-Houston Engineering.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the agenda, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.
3. **Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to approve the minutes of the SHRWD regular board meeting conducted on March 4, 2008, **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **Carried**.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to approve the treasurer's report for March, **Seconded** by Manager Sonsteli, **Carried**.

A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to approve and pay bills **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried**. For further reference, copies of the bills approved are attached hereto in the Treasurer's Report.

5. Engineer's Report

Union Lake Erosion Control: Bid opening is set for May 6, 2008 at 10 a.m. Woodbury's engineers estimate is \$76,000. The construction budget on the original grant application was \$85,000 and additional miscellaneous expenses of \$15,000. Wilkens met with Don Kuntz and talked to Mark Krebsbach. Don Kuntz was not in agreement with the first easement presented and alternatives were discussed. Kuntz has asked for 12 inch tile line from the township road to the lake rather than the open ditch. He would also like the easement area staked so he could tell where our easement was actually located on his property. He also would like the structure at the road eliminated and built farther upstream out of view. He wants to be able to mow by the road. Woodbury suggested that eliminating the structure by the road and moving it upstream would negate the sites capabilities so much that it would not have any value for erosion control. Adding the tile line and construct a dike and over flow structure would increase the project cost substantially. Mark Krebsbach has valued his 10.55 acres at \$2,500 per acre which comes to \$26,375. Approximately \$12,500 has been spent on developing the current alternative since the grant agreement was signed; construction costs are estimated at \$76,000, and land costs of \$26,375 which totals \$114,875 for project costs. Our current budget is \$100,000, (\$50,000 state, \$35,000 watershed, and \$15,000 lake improvement district). Woodbury presented the construction plans and discussed alternatives to lower the costs relative to Kuntz's requests and the budget. The managers discussed possible solutions to get the project completed in the most cost efficient manner. It was decided that the bid specs will be written with the lower structure as an alternative. After the bids are opened and the costs are known the watershed board, LID, BWSR, and the landowners will decide at that time whether or not the lower alternative, including Kuntz's requests, are financially feasible.

6. Dan's Monthly Report:

Project Team: A Project Team meeting is tentatively scheduled for May.

RRWMB: The RRWMB met at UMC in conjunction with River Watch Forum.

Union Lake Improvement District: Wilkens has talked to Brian Paradis. The LID is preparing for controlling milfoil this spring. They have also contacted a firm in the cities about installing a filter at the pump. They may need to ask for assistance as this progresses. Paradis stated that there is \$160,000 set aside for Eurasian Milfoil control for the whole state. He has requested a copy of our erosion control plan for his permits as soon as we have it ready.

Project # 20/Polk County # 46: Wilkens has sent a request for reimbursement of State Aid Bridge funds and has not heard back. Hanson reminded the managers of our commitment to smooth an area around Charles Hanson's mailbox. Wilkens was instructed to take his tractor and cultivator and smooth the area. Wilkens will continue to try to locate the flowing well on the Paul Engelstad property so it can be capped weather permitting.

PC # 41: Wilkens has completed working with landowners to help them find solutions to the many water problems along this stretch of road.

MAWD: Wilkens and Hanson attended the MAWD Legislative Breakfast.

Advisory Committee Meeting: The advisory committee meeting is scheduled for April 7th. Three schools are planning on presenting a short program on their findings. Swenby will contact the members and try to get good attendance.

Legal Work on Ditch Systems: Attorney Dave Hauff will come to the May meeting to discuss remaining legal issues with ditch systems relating to separation and consolidation.

Vesledahl Project: Boyd Bratager and Michael Johnson attended our meeting in Bemidji with Mn DOT. We explained that the ditch appears to be constricted somewhere. MnDOT agreed to volunteer their RTK unit to survey the problem area and if it is found to be in need of repair will furnish the money to get it cleaned. Mark Morvig has an issue with seepage and drainage which didn't seem to have a definite cure at this time. MnDOT agreed to give the Sand Hill River Watershed District a temporary permit to control the vegetation for this season.

MADI: The Minnesota Association of Drainage Inspectors held their meeting the March 17th. A good discussion of issues faced by drainage inspectors was held. A draft outline was developed to use in the construction of a drainage inspectors manual. Meeting highlights were given the managers. A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to pay the requested \$75 dues to MADI, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried**.

March Conference: Wilkens and Hanson attended

Overall Plan: Henry Van Offelen called and said he has a meeting scheduled this month with people to help with the NRE portion of our overall plan. He expects that he will have the NRE section done by the end of the April.

8. Other Business:

Polk County Fair: Dan Skanson from the Polk County Fair has asked for the District's support and sponsorship to bring the "Toonies" back to the Polk County Fair. The "Toonies" provide an environmental presentation directed toward the youth at the Polk County Fair. Polk County Environmental Services and the Early Childhood Initiative will also be sponsors "Toonies". The total cost to bring the "Toonies" to Fertile is \$2200. The Fair is asking for \$500 towards the education of the youth from environmental services. A **Motion** was made by Manager Hanson to contribute \$500 to assist in sponsoring the "Toonies" at the Polk County Fair, **Seconded** by

Manager Sonstelie, **Carried.**

MN Viewers Association: A **Motion** was made by Manager Christian to continue to be members of the Minnesota Viewers Association and contribute \$125, **Seconded** by Manager Brekke, **Carried.**

Copier Proposal: Our lease agreement for our current copier is about to expire and is now eligible for renewal. Tony Dorn has presented a proposal for \$247.11 per month which is nearly \$100 cheaper each month in comparison to what we have now. The copiers are comparable units. A **Motion** was made by Manager Sonstelie to enter into another 5 year agreement and upgrade our current copier/printer, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried.**

9. **Permits:** A **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke approving the following permits, **Seconded** by Manager Christian, **Carried.**

2008-04 Polk County, Replace existing bridge with 2 lines of 12x 4 in section 35 Russia Township.

10. **Adjournment:** The next regular meeting of the SHRWD will be at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2008. As there was no further business to come before the board, a **Motion** was made by Manager Brekke to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m., **Seconded** by Manager Hanson, **Carried.**

Gordon Sonstelie., Secretary

April Swenby, Administrative Assistant